St. John's
United Church of Christ
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Newark OH
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Church Website
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Our Church Staff

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Emmaleigh Crowthers

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Rooted in the Evangelical
and Reformed Traditions
We are Sowing Seeds of Hope
in a Time of Chaos
So We May All Be One



November 15, 2026

Chapel Service: 8:00 a.m.
Sanctuary Service: 10:30 a.m.

November 15, 2026 *Chapel Service* *8:00 am*
Sanctuary Service *10:30 am*

Announcements & Greetings

Prelude (8:00 a.m.) Jane Shoemaker
"We Have Come Into His House" arr. by Purifoy

Prelude (10:30 a.m.) "Simple Gifts" Shaker Todd Baldosser

***Opening Hymn** **"For the Beauty of the Earth"** **No. 56**
(8:00 a.m. Verses 1 & 5)

1) For the beauty of the earth, for the glory of the skies,
for the love which from our birth over and around us lies,
Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

2) For the beauty of each hour of the day and of the night,
hill and vale, and tree and flower, sun and moon, and stars of light,
Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

5) For thy church that evermore lifteth holy hands above,
offering up on every shore one pure sacrifice of love,
Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

***Call to Worship**
Leader: We lift our eyes to You, O God
All: From You comes our strength
Leader: We lift our voice to You, O God
All: From You comes our song
Leader: We lift our minds, hearts and souls to You, O God
All: From You comes our salvation
Leader: We shine brightly as people of the Light, O God
All: From You comes our illumination

***Prayer of Invocation**
All: Spirit of love, power, goodness and light, awaken us this morning and prepare us for all that You have prepared for us to be and do in the days ahead. Clothe us with Your faithfulness, wrap us with hope and bind us together with wisdom and strength. Encourage us and build us up, that we might do the same for others. As we pray the powerful words you taught;

***Please stand if you are able**

***The Lord's Prayer* – Our Father, who art in heaven, Hallowed be Thy name.**
Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, On earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread; And forgive us our debts,
As we forgive our debtors; And lead us not into temptation,
But deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom,
and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

***Gloria Patri** **No. 35**

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen. Amen.

***Affirmation of Faith — The Nicene Creed, A.D. 325** *(Traditional Version)*

We believe in One God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible

And in One Lord Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, begotten from the Father before all ages,
God from God,
Light from Light,
True God from True God,
Begotten not made;
of the same essence as the Father.
Through Him all things were made.
For us and our salvation; He came down from Heaven and became incarnate by the Holy Spirit. He was crucified under Pontius Pilate, He suffered and was buried. The third day He rose again. He ascended into Heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in Glory to judge the living and the dead. His Kingdom will never end.

And we believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life. He proceeds from the Father and the Son, and with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified.

We believe in the one true Holy and Apostolic Christian Church. We affirm one Baptism. We look forward to the resurrection from the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen

Special Music "Joshua" Alfred Rayce Hill

Prayer Response **"Hear Our Prayer, O Lord"** **No. 306**

Hear our prayer, O Lord, hear our prayer, O Lord,
incline thine ear to us, and grant us thy peace. Amen.

Special Music (8:00 a.m.) "Agape (Love)" by Clark Jane Shoemaker

Choir Anthem (10:30 a.m.) "Kumbaya" Schram

Scripture Reading Ephesians 4:22-24 Jeff Conner

Scripture Reading Romans 12:2

Sermon "Information Verses Transformation" Rev. Dr. Stephen Swisher

Hymn **"Sweet Hour of Prayer"** (8:00 a.m. Verses 1 & 3) **No. 570**

1) **Sweet hour of prayer! sweet hour of prayer!**
that calls me from a world of care,
and bids me at my Father's throne
make all my wants and wishes known.
In seasons of distress and grief,
my soul has often found relief,
and oft escaped the temper's snare
by thy return, sweet hour of prayer!

2) **Sweet hour of prayer! sweet hour of prayer!**
the joys I feel, the bliss I share
of those whose anxious spirits burn
with strong desires for thy return!
With such I hasten to the place
Where God my Savior shows his face,
And gladly take my station there,
And wait for thee, sweet hour of prayer!

3) **Sweet hour of prayer! sweet hour of prayer!**
thy wings shall my petition bear
to him whose truth and faithfulness
engage the waiting soul to bless.
And since he bids me seek his face,
believe his word, and trust his grace,
I'll cast on him my every care,
and wait for thee, sweet hour of prayer!

Invitation for Faithful Giving

Offertory (10:30 a.m.) "Autumn Song" Tchaikovsky Todd Baldosser

***Doxology** **No. 46**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heavenly hosts:
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

***Prayer of Thanksgiving over the Offering**

All: **Restoring and gracious God, Maker of a new Heaven and a new Earth, where sorrow is lifted and joy takes root. May these gifts we bring today be seeds of Your promised future—-offering hope, life, justice and mercy to a weary world. Use what we give and who we are to proclaim a Kingdom where none are forgotten, where the wolf and the lamb lie down in peace and where the sound of weeping is no more. Let this act of giving remind us that Your dream is still unfolding and that we are called to help build it. In Jesus' Name. Amen**

***Closing Hymn** **"Living for Jesus"** (8:00 a.m. Verses 1 & 4) **No. 610**

1) **Living for Jesus a life that is true,**
striving to please him in all that I do;
yielding allegiance, gladhearted and free,
this is the pathway of blessing for me.

Refrain: ***O Jesus, Lord and Savior, I give myself to thee,***
for thou, in thy atonement, dist give thyself for me;
I own no other master, my heart shall be thy throne,
my life I give, henceforth to live, O Christ, for thee alone.

2) **Living for Jesus who died in my place,**
bearing on Calvary my sin and disgrace;
such love constrains me to answer his call,
follow his leading and give him my all.

Refrain:

3) **Living for Jesus through earth's little while,**
my dearest treasure – the light of his smile;
seeking the lost ones he died to redeem,
bringing the weary to find rest in him.

Refrain:

***Benediction**

***Please join us in the singing of the Congregational Benediction**

Go Now In Peace/Never be afraid/God will go with you/Each hour of ev'ry Day/Go now in Faith/Steadfast, strong and true/Know He will guide you in all you do. Go now in Love/And show you believe/Reach out to others/So all the world can see/God will be there/Watching from above/Go now in Peace/In Faith and in Love. Amen/Amen/Amen. CL#2548454

Postlude (8:00 a.m.) Jane Shoemaker
"Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken" arr. by Loree

Postlude (10:30 a.m.) "Lord of the Dance" Carter Todd Baldosser

Pastor Steve's Quote of the Week
"Try to understand others. Because if you understand others you will be kind."
John Steinbeck
Legendary author

Dr. Swisher's message next week:
Sunday, November 22, 2026 (Thanksgiving Sunday)
"The Life Changing Power of Thanksgiving"
1 Thessalonians 5:18

Sermon Notes

To our members, dear friends and visitors:
You are an important part of the worship and ministry that goes on here, and we are thankful for your presence. Please sign the attendance pads on the tables. Thank you!

Afternoon Circle -

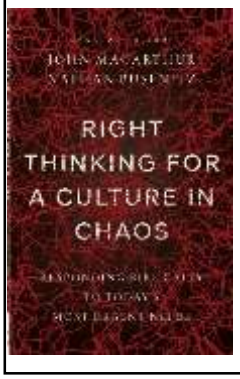
-will have the annual Christmas Luncheon on Wednesday, December 2, at Noon. Please make your reservation for lunch by Sunday, November 22, with Vicky Davis. The meal is being prepared by Creative Catering (chicken/noodles, green beans, mashed potatoes, roll/butter), and will cost $12 per person.

We will have our $5 gift exchange, and the program will be "The 3 Women of Christmas". All women of St. John's are always welcome to attend. Just please make a reservation for this meeting.



As we move forward with the elevator upgrade project, we have placed envelopes at both bulletin tables in the Sanctuary for your use if you would like to contribute to the Elevator Project Fund. Contributions will be used to repay the loan amount back to the Foundation Fund. You can also mark your offering envelope or check with Elevator Fund. Thank you for your support for this important investment for our church.

Book Club



The Book Study group will meet on Thursday, November 19, at 11am as usual. There will be no meeting on the last Thursday of the month due to the Thanksgiving holiday. We meet at the River Road Coffee House on the north side of the square in downtown Newark. The current book is Right Thinking for a Culture in Chaos, Responding Biblically to Today's Most Urgent Needs by John MacArthur and Nathan Busenitz. Come join the discussion and fellowship.

St. John's Little Free Pantry

Take what you need. Give what you can.



To replenish our food pantry every day we need your help every week. There are collection boxes near each entrance to the Church. Keep in mind that many of the people using this pantry have limited cooking facilities. Ollie's, Dollar Tree, and Aldi's are good places to find foods at good prices. Cans with pull tabs when possible and no glass containers! Thanks for your support! https://www.littlefreepantry.org/

Mission and Outreach for November

As we approach the Thanksgiving season, thankful for the many ways God has blessed us this year, we look for ways to share our blessings with others. One that we did last year was especially appreciated. We would like to continue this year collecting boxes of cereal for the St. Vincent Men's Haven. There will be a collection container in the Fellowship Room for boxes of cereal. All kinds are appreciated. Thanks for giving.





ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

Advent Study

Recapturing the Wonder of Jesus Living with Us!

at 9:00AM in the Large Meeting Room

November 29—Christmas Crafts

December 6—Christmas Crafts

December 13 Advent Study

December 20 Advent Study

December 27—No Class

Bible Discovery Zone Sunday Classes
9:00AM

Adult Class



Join us for

Revelation: Hope vs Fear

by Carl Kochendorfer

Led by Carl Kochendorfer

Meet in the large meeting room

Youth Class



Join us for

"The Thread"

By YM360

Led by Elaine Gard

Meet in the small meeting room

Classes at 10:30AM

Bible Discovery Zone Children's Church

Ages 5 - 12: Join us for Bible lessons, crafts and games

Meets in the Bible Discovery Zone classroom

Ages 0—5 Nursery care is available

St. John's Young Adult Life Group

NEW!

Adults ages 18 to 30

December 16, 2026 @ 6:30PM

in St. John's Fellowship Room

Make friends, Build a Community, Grow in Faith

Bring a friend and join other young adults for our ***NEW*** group.

Positive Living Podcast

Available Tuesday November 17, 2026 at 10AM



U.S. Senator-Elect
Adam Hamilton
Pastor and Author

Kansas U.S. Senator-Elect Adam Hamilton is a Christian theologian, minister, and author. He is senior pastor of the United Methodist Church of the Resurrection, the largest United Methodist congregation in the United States. He graduated with a bachelor's degree from Oral Roberts University, in pastoral ministry and a Master of Divinity from the Perkins School of Theology at Southern Methodist University. He has written more than 30 books about Christian faith, biblical hermeneutics, and contemporary issues and many video-based lessons for Sunday school classes.



German Language Christmas Service

Celebrate Our Heritage

December 13 at 3:00pm

Join us for a special bilingual service in German and English!

- English translations will be available
- Music by Todd Baldosser and also The Newark Maennerchor.
- Children's Moment included.

Stay for Fellowship!
More fun follows the service
Traditional German goodies will be served.

Please Mark Your Calendar for December 6, 2026



Please plan on attending the Congregational Budget Meeting following the 10:30 a.m. Service on December 6, 2026, to vote on the 2027 Budget. We appreciate your vote!

Poinsettia ORDERS

This Christmas, we will again beautify our sanctuary with an array of Poinsettias, which will be purchased from a local nursery. If you would like to participate in this celebration of Christmas, please fill out the form below or contact the church office.

6.5" pot $ **12.00/each**
1 plant - 4 to 7 blooms (Red in color)

Please order early. The DEADLINE for placing orders is <u>Sunday, November 29, 2026.</u>
Please pick up plants after the 10:30 a.m. service on Sunday, December 20, or after the Christmas Eve Services on December 24.

_____I desire the office to purchase a poinsettia for me to keep.
_____I desire the office to purchase a poinsettia to be donated to a shut-in.

For Poinsettias and Memorials: Be sure to complete the following to be printed in the bulletin: (i.e.: In honor of or in memory of……..... by or from……..……)

_____

_____

_____

You may also choose **(please check the box below)** to remember a loved one with a gift to the Abiding Memorial Fund ☐ or the Foundation Fund ☐ (if one is established). All such gifts noted and received **<u>BY DECEMBER 6</u>** will be listed in the bulletin on **Sunday, December 13, Sunday, December 21 and Christmas Eve.** Fill out the information above. Abiding Memorial and Foundation Fund Cards and envelopes are also available in the literature rack in the Narthex or in the office, or mark your envelope with the information.

Thank you!

General Prayers: Charlie Bruah, Rev. Dr. Winfield Strout, Eli Taylor, Carl Kochendorfer, Trisha Boehmer, Delores Williams, & Jerry Goodman

Church Members Homebound and Nursing Facility Residents: Bonita Farmer, Patricia Gilbert, Paula Hatfield, Faith Kelly, Dolores McDonald, Esther Gillham, Helen McGaughy, Mary Lou Hostetler, Molly Sheets, Debi Snow

We Appreciate Those Serving Today!

Liturgist:
Jeff Conner

Cantor:
10:30 a.m. Julie Davis

Ushers:
Frank Davis, Terry Gano,
Barry Dooley, Gary Kinser

Cradle Roll:
Volunteer

Bible Discovery Zone:
Rebecca Swartz/Youth

Media Worship Team:

Sound & Video:
10:30 am: Ken Kroah/Julie Kroah

Thank you for your continued support! In addition to your giving in person, by drop off, by mail, or by clicking on the donate button on the website, you can also scan this QR Code. We continue to find new ways to connect with our members and our community that are convenient, secure, helpful, and relevant to the ways in which some people prefer to donate. We thank God for our ability to offer these methods for those who may choose to use them.

Office Hours: Monday, Tuesday & Friday: 9am –12 pm. Please call the office 740-323-2407 and leave a message to make any additional appointments. Thank you!

THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sunday:	**November 15, 2026**
	Twenty-fifth Sunday after Pentecost
8:00 am	Indoor Chapel Service
9:00 am	Youth & Adult Sunday School Classes
10:30 am	Sanctuary Service – Choir Sings
10:30 am	BDZ Children's Church & Cradle Roll
Monday:	
6:30 pm	Church Council Meeting
12-1:00 pm	LifeWise Academy
Wednesday:	
6:00 pm	Crystal City Chorus
Thursday:	
11:00 am	Thursday Book Study, Right Thinking for a Culture in Chaos, Responding Biblically to Today's Most Urgent Needs by John MacArthur and Nathan Busenitz. at River Road Coffee on the Square
12:30-1:30 pm	LifeWise Academy
Sunday:	**November 22, 2026**
	Reign of Christ
8:00 am	Indoor Chapel Service
9:00 am	Youth & Adult Sunday School Classes
10:30 am	Sanctuary Service
10:30 am	BDZ Children's Church & Cradle Roll
11:30 am	Youth Group Meeting
11:45 am	"Hanging of the Greens" Please stay and help decorate the church

Attendance Report for Sunday, November 8, 2026
8:00 a.m. - 19 10:30 a.m. – 50
Sunday, November 8 Live Stream Views – 185

Finances for the Month and Year to Date

General Fund Income	October	Year to date
Congregation giving (Faith Promise)	8,242.82	84,678.30
Income from Foundation Fund	16,000.00	119,500.00
Monthly Income from Emerson Miller Fund	3,758.33	37,583.30
Month & YTD Total Income	29,479.06	250,013.59
General Fund Expenses	24,732.82	258,676.79
Over/Under Month & YTD	**$4,746.24**	**($8,663.20)**

( ) = Negative